

We are pleased to note that *The Guide to Nature* has introduced a department of Ornithology, which is edited by Harry G. Higbee. In the September number there are several good reproductions from photographs. The introduction of this feature should serve to increase the popularity of this magazine of the Agassiz Association.

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The editor will have something to say about certain interesting features of his summer experiences in the December *Wilson Bulletin*. It will be recalled that a number of articles appeared from his pen about his trip down this same coast in June, 1907. The intervening eight years has witnessed marked changes, which it is proposed to note at this time.

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Many readers of the *Wilson Bulletin* must have spent some of the summer where they have been able to gather interesting facts about bird life. The editor will be glad to receive accounts of these studies and the conclusions reached for the pages of the *Bulletin*. The real value of such studies is appreciated only when you write them up for publication.

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## GENERAL NOTES

### BIRDS AND THE WORLD WAR.

A private soldier now on leave in England says birds warn the allies of German gas attacks. Long before the smell of the fumes can be detected by the man in the trenches, there is to be heard a clamouring of alarmed and awakened birds. These soon fly away beyond the reach of the deadly fumes, but the soldiers have had warning, and meantime adjust their respirators, and make other preparations to meet the gas. This item of war news is an addendum to the remarks in Dr. Shufeldt's very interesting paper on Ornithology and the War in Europe.

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TAVERNER ON CORMORANTS VS. SALMON.—On account of numerous complaints that cormorants were damaging the salmon fisheries of the Gaspé coast of Quebec, Mr. P. A. Taverner and two assistants investigated conditions there for two months during the summer of 1914.

General observations did not support the contention that cor-